

Hitohira

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IDUMI KIRIHARA



Hitohira

IDUMI
KIRIHARA



1

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Aurora

What do you do when you are so
bored that you can't bring yourself
to speak in front of people? Well, the
last thing that came through your school's mind
was that you should do it with the drama club.
She soon finds herself forced into doing just that.
With every club member determined to make you into a
great actress, how is she to cope with the pressure?



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TEEN

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Hitohira 1

IDUMI KIRIHARA



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You must have really good eyes...

You're gonna check your test results from here~



Mizunagi Junior High
Third-Year Student
Mori Aoi



Isn't good.

I know,
you should do
something about
that...

Losing
your voice
when you're
nervous...

Mizunagi Junior High
Third-Year Student
Kawo Tomya



I've
tried

to
fix
that.



SNIFLE

I
can't
help
it.



Prelude

Wait,
I'm
coming!

Hey,
you don't
need to talk to
see your test
results. Or do
you want me
to check 'em
for you?



Aww, they're
all so
young.
How cute!

Freshmen...

They still
have that
"youthful
energy"...

KUHATARA Art Academy
THEATER GROUP MEMBERS
ERIKAGE KATSURAGI



I wonder
how many of
them will be
accepted?

I just hope
there'll
be a few
hotties...

Hey...

...don't
say things
like that!

A guy
can
dream,
can't he?

KUHATARA Art Academy
THEATER GROUP MEMBERS
RYOMA NISHIDA



MINORU

MINORU

WOW...



No, don't quit! We're gonna recruit some new members!



KIMATAMA ART ACADEMY
THEATER GROUP MEMBERS
NONO SCHOOLS





That means

...our Theater Group will have to disband. So let's get to work!

But if we can't get more members

Well, maybe we'll fail.

You're right, right.

Don't worry. I won't let that happen!

Nothing can stop us, right?

After all, it's going to be our last year.

FLOOR



Let's just
hope we get
some new
members.

Right!



Ouch

WHAM



Um,
it's OK,
I guess

Sorry,
my hand
slipped...

What
was I
supposed



I
mean...

We
can't do
anything
about it
now.

Prelude + End



Yeah!

TODAY,
I STUDY AT
KUMATAMA JON
ACADEMY.



Kaya,
do I
look OK
in this?



Yeah!
It looks
good on
you



Yup, I
feel a
little
nervous
wearing
mine.

Under the
creaky
slippers...

There's
something
special
about
brand-new
school
uniforms.



WE'VE AGREE
TO BECOME
HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS!

So,
wanna
go?



Mugi Falls Chapter 1







SNIFFLS
Juh

You get
way too
nervous
in front
of other
people.

Face facts!
You can't
fix your
problem
without
admitting
it.

Please,
forget
it, ever
happened.



Let go
Juh



You care
too much
about what
others think.

Map

TAP TAP

You're
fine when
you're
with me.

And when
you get
nervous,
you can't
talk.



I'll
try.

I did get
into this
school...
but...

You've
gotta
believe
in yourself!

I mean,
you got
into this
school.



TAP TAP

...you
have no
confidence
in yourself.



I CAN'T
DO ANYTHING
ON MY
OWN.

You
gonna
join a
club?

I'm
thinking
about
it...



...WELL
BECAUSE I
KNEW THAT
KAYO WAS
COMING
HERE.

THE REASON
I APPLIED...



I mean,
I really
want to
be a
photo-
grapher.

Um...



It looks
good...

...so
colleges...



Wheeee!

ZOOM

Could me
coming
through!

HUP!

BAM



The
Photo
Club?

ZIP



I'm so
worthless.



We're on the second floor!

WHOOSH



I'm sorry! Magi, and um, Koko, right?



He's upstairs!

Magi?

How are you off?

He went up!

Get him!

KAI



I'll apologise later... I gotta go!

STOMP







You'd better run, freshmen, or you'll be late for class.

Run, hurry.

OH!



I guess some things are just meant to be...



Hono, isn't she...?

I know.



That is the first time I've seen you laugh in ages.

Mugh, let's go!

OK.

CHUCKLE!!

CHUCKLE!!









No, it's fine, but...



Should I help?

Oh, OK, I'm going, too.



Kiyo, I'm going to the storage room.



Uhh... sorry.



Can you wait for me here with Kai? There's something I want to talk to you about.



...but you don't mind if I hide under this table, do you?

Um... No...



No, I'm OK.

I need to apologize to Kiyo anyway.

Are you still running from those other students?

So, can you wait a little while?

SLIDE







...it school throughout the whole school!

YOU WERE SO LOUD...

So... how about joining our group?



I am nervous!

A lot of people were there that day.

Oh, yeah...

...I remember that scream.



Oh, no...

Everyone's looking at me!



CLENCH

I can't breathe.

What should I do?



I want to leave.

I just want to leave!

Mug?

Oh...

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP









Why
am I
dressed
like that?

What?!

FLASH

HURRY

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP





My Big Chance? Chapter 2











Oh,
I see.

My big
sis told
me...

...that
it isn't
near the
other
clubs.



Yes?

So, where
is the
Theater
Group's
club room?



Um...

It's not
your fault.
I ended
up joining
the club.



Oh,
sorry.
Yes, Ka?

No...

What
is it, Mug?

Yes?



CRACKLE



Um...





Here?



What
are you
talking
about?
It's right
here!

Big
sis?

Where's
the damn
room?
We can't
find it!



Theater Group

Here?

Yes,
right
here.



How about you, Reizi?

Hope, no other members.



Most freshmen have joined other clubs already.



No, sorry.

Takashi, do you know any other prospective members?



Great.



It's so CRAMPED IN HERE!

SH SQUEEZE



Can't we
just go
outside?



Hey, what's
the point
of meeting
in this tiny
room?



Please
go

STEAM

So you
two can
get
started!

You be
quiet!

STEAM



Well...

Ka
Nahida...

Mug
Ashi...





BLAM!

If you guys are
just messin'
around, I don't
see the point of-

OUCH!

Since you
guys are
so into
theater...

...I was
expecting
more of an
authentic
club.

How
dare
you!

You
stupid
jerk!

How can
you say
that to
people
who take
theater
seriously!

Apologies,
now!

Ow!





At this school
there are
presently two
theater clubs.
One official,
and one not.



Let me
explain.

I don't
understand.

That's the
"official"
Theater
Group. We're
technically
the "Theater
Research
Group."



We will both put
on performances
at the festival
in October.



The audience
will vote for
one group or
the other.
The losing
club will be
eliminated
permanently.



So we
need you
two—

Wait a
sec—

WHAT?



You're going to have to work very hard.

But you'll be OK, because we're all in this together.



Yes, Mugi!



...want to be...

...a stage-hand



We need you to be ready for the big festival in October...



A stage-hand?

We don't have any stage-hands. There aren't enough members for that.

?

NOO

NOO

NOO

GAAAH!



I THOUGHT
THERE
WOULD BE
SOMETHING
EVEN I
COULD DO.

MY DREAM OF
BECOMING A
STAGEHAND
HAS QUICKLY
COME TO
AN END...



Just as I
thought!



Um,
Mug...



I can't
do this.

Oh, no!
Not
again!

Karlo...

Mug!

WHAM!

Chapter 2 + End







The Real and the Fake Chapter 3





SHINE

Chitose Kanna
I'm a freshman

I'm
Chitose!















I'm just making sure she doesn't pick up any bad habits.

In your dreams.

I heard one of our members went into your room.



One of your members?

Oh...



I understand

...it's a disgrace to be associated with those deviants.

You're joining our group?



Did you come by because you'd like to join our group?

Wh-What?





Why waste
your time doing
something you dislike?

Waste
my
time...



If it's
true, you
shouldn't
do it.

Um...

It's just,
I was
unable
to say
anything.
So...

No,
she's
wrong.

Too
nice?

Ma?

You're
being too
nice.

May...

You don't
need to
waste
your time
on these
people.

I mean,
Noro and
Briano
volunteered
me and
joined the
group.

You must
have things
that you
really want
to do.

I'm so
confused.

Um...

But...



Sorry,
I thought I
saw a bug.



Well...



GRAB

Let's go,
Mugi.

Oh!



Everyone is
so passionate,
I can't just
quit!









I was surprised when Maria told me

I didn't know there was another Theater Group!



WINDING

Why are you here?

The "Year" Kanna...?

Wow, you know everything now, don't you?

WINDING



You know what? The "Year" Kanna doesn't sound bad

It's actually kind of cool!



Well, everyone in our class knows you by that name now.

My name is Chisose! Don't call me the "Year" Kanna!

BOOMING



Don't you, Mug?

Oh, you look so cute...

No! It's not cool at all! Don't call me that!

My life was so boring.

Now, it's filled with these dramatic people!

What?

Mug.

...modeling her school uniform!

Hey, don't take my picture without asking me!

That's better.

Hmph.



Our
PERFORMANCE
IS COMING
UP...





A show
in May? That's
next month!

Right.

We should
start giving
out invitations.

A
PERFORMANCE
...?

No
need to
worry.

We'll be
great!



I want you
to get
familiar with
"the vibe"
of theater.

I bet you'd
rather just
watch
the time.



Wow,
I guess I
can't wait
to perform!



Why do you
guys need
so many
costumes?



What's
up?



I've been
wondering

Yep,
Mugp...

Huh?

No,
nothing.
I'm fine

and





GRAB

Don't worry, you don't have too many lines.



No, it can't be...

None? You'll what...?

The best way to become familiar with theater is by actually being onstage.



Yeah, I'm sure she'll be fine maybe.

Help me

It's NOT ABOUT THE NUMBER OF LINES! I'M JUST NOT READY TO PERFORM!

I can't help you. You're the one who joined the group! Besides, I think it'll be good for you.



I'm going
to...

PER-
FORM?

TH



Now that I
think about
it, I'm kind
of worried
about Mugi.

I've
seen
it.

So, they're
going to do an
original love
story?



Uh, they're
right
there.

Hub? How
did you get
the script?



Hey...

You shouldn't
be looking at
those!

Why are
there so
many?

I mean, you're
from the
other
Theater
Group.





TODAY FOR LUNCH I HAD,
UH, FRIED CHICKEN. OH,
THAT FRIED CHICKEN WAS
SO GOOD... YEAH, WHAT
SHOULD I EAT TOMORROW?

WHAT AM I GONNA GET?
WHAT AM I GONNA GET?
OK, I NEED TO CALM
DOWN! LET'S HAVE "BUSY
THOUGHTS." OK, UH, I'VE
GOT... UH, LUNCH!
YEAH, THAT'S HAPPY...

TH-THUMP TH-THUMP
決<決<決<

TH-THUMP TH-THUMP
決<決<決<決<



Yes!
Tomorrow
I'll have
egg!

Magi?

...egg.



Magi?
Your
line...

Maybe
I'll
have...



It scores me
sometimes,
how well Hono
can switch
conversations.

That
is it.
Your line
is right
here.

Oh?

Well...

It's one of
the "stapler"
she got from
acting...



Uh, OK, I'll
have some
lessons...





What
do you
mean?

She usually
talks just
fine!



Yup

Is there
something
wrong with
her today?
I can't hear
a single word
she's saying.

Mug-
Mug...?

Is that
your new
nickname
for her?



..
talks
like
that.

She
..
always
..



Is that
why she
says she
doesn't
breathe?

Well,
she doesn't
breathe it.
She just feels it
isn't for her.



When she gets
nervous in
front of other
people, she
can't speak.

She's
so shy



So, if her voice
can physically
come out, there
isn't really a
problem, right?

DETERMINED





See?

You have
such a
loud,
powerful
voice!

Impressive!

The
second
reason...

...and to
make her
take deep
breaths!

Project
your voice
using the
muscles in
your stomach.
It's a basic
technique you
gotta know.

You
need to
remember the
way you
were just
breath-
ing...

My
voice...
What just
happened?

You
know
what?

I'm gonna
be ready
in May...

That's
something
special
about Mugi's
voice...

Here...



Must Asahi
There's just
something
about her!

You're...

...not
going to
outshine
me!



Or it
might
be her
posture.

There're
so many
things that
can make
someone
"special."

It could
be her
appear-
ance.



The

I HEARD
WORLD'VE
IMAGINED IT.

I'M GOING
RESTORE!

IT'S REALLY
HAPPENING.

So, you're
heaping out
with the
other club?

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

Believe In Yourself! Chapter 5















Please
sit back
and
enjoy...

This is a
story about
two people
who were
meant to be
together.

Her voice.
Was so
beautiful.



Are you
going to
be OK?

Hurry...

What
should I
do? I'm
going to
be late!

Your
part's
coming
up

That's
the end
of Scene
One

Yes

Want a
ride?

Don't
worry
about it

Thank you!
That would
really help



I suddenly
lost my
voice...



I wanted to
say something,
but I decided
not to.

I can't
forgive us.



And...

You
know,
the first
time it
happened
was last
fall...



But then
it kept
happening.

I recovered,
and I didn't
think anything
of it.

I went to
the hospital
and they
said it was
nothing
to worry
about.



She was so
worried...

My
dumb-
best
friend...



I don't
know...

Are you
gonna
be all
right?



Maybe...

Let's because
we rehearse
so much.
Could there
be any
long-term
damage?

Possibly,
but the
doctors
didn't say
so.

It's a wonder
where the
voice cords
don't function
properly.
I can suddenly
lose my voice,
or my voice
can change
unexpectedly.

But I'll
be OK.

Huh?

Amal, why
do you
think I
told you?

You
have
to...

No.

Well,
it sounds
pretty
serious!

We don't
want to
lose you
but...

Just remind
me not to
speak too
much when
we're not
rehearsing.

Trust me,
I won't use
my voice
unneces-
sarily...

I want
you to
support
me.

What
do you
mean?

RATTLE



We'll
find the
appropriate
treatment
for you.

What
are you
talking
about?!

Think
about
your
health!

THIS IS THE
BEST TIME
THIS HAS
HAPPENED

You
can do
theater
when
you're
cured!

Take
care of
your
voice.

You could
really hurt
yourself!

Don't relax
too much.



I hide my
emotions.
Too
I'm not that
outgoing

I've gotten
a little
better,
but...

And

I used to
think I
wasn't cut
out for this, also.

You know,
we're very
similar.

You hurt
at hearing
of your
condition.





I can't

...just
stop
now.

So...

Maybe...

...reflects
Hono's
true
feelings!

My time
with you,
our time
together
is precious
to me...

The
dramatic
in this
script...

Ah, your
entrance
is coming
up.

TH-
THUMP

Wah-!!

TH-
THUMP

TH-
THUMP

I com-
pletely
forgot
I was
about
to go
 onstage.

TH-
THUMP

TH-
THUMP



Here!
Give me
your
hand...



UH-OH!

OH, NOOO!

TH-THUMP

Y..eh..

My friend
who
introduced
me to
theater...

...told
me to put
my hands
together
like this,
when I
got too
nervous.

TH-THUMP

Y..eh..

Snee?

TH-THUMP
CARESS

TH-THUMP
Y..eh..



TH-THUMP
Y..eh..



NOO

That was
the first
time I
heard your
voice



See's
RIGHT...
I was
MUCH
CALMER...



Remember
the dog
your test
results
were
poor?

Much
scribe
...



You'll
be
great.

You just
have to
believe in
yourself.



There was
something
about you.

Something
special...

I know
you mean
exactly
what we
needed



So don't
give up.



You have
a unique
voice.
Mugi.
It's one-of-
a-kind.

TH-
THUMP

TAD



Sister...

I have something to tell you.



What's
this?
I don't
know
what
it is.





SHAKE



Man...
We've done
nothing but
rehearse
lately...











MY MOUSE
LOVES EYES!

I KNOW
WHAT YOUR
EYES ARE
UP TO!

I JUST
REPEATED
WHAT I'D
MEMORIZED!

I HATE TO
REPEASE.
MY MOUSE
WAS ALL
OWN.

I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHAT I WAS
SAYING!

I
COULDN'T
EVEN
MOVE!

THERE'S
NOTHING
POSITIVE
I CAN SAY
ABOUT IT!

AND MY
VOICE
WASN'T LOUD
ENOUGH



I don't even remember how I made it, backstage...



That's fine, what are you going to do?

you...

You're gonna get gross stains.

Heh?



Are you trying to get dirty?

But Mono says to ME...



But it was MY BEST PERFORMANCE.



Good
job!

I'm very
proud
of you!



SHE WAS SO
HARD TO SAY
THAT TO ME.

SHIRAI
~

I couldn't
stop
crying.



But...



IT WAS
OBVIOUS
THAT MY
PERFORMANCE
WAS WORSE.





Magi's infamous "I can't" too?

Here we go again.

Yes. You Can.

I can't do this.



True, she used to be a lot worse.

I think she's better, compared to when she started.



She just needs more self-confidence.

Yup, that's the one.



but I don't think she realizes that herself, yet.

hmm...

She is improving.

I know what?



Let's do this "Hollywood" thing!



OK, OK.
One coffee
coming
right up!



Is that
something
a waitress
would
really say?

?



OK.

How
hey

Please
wait
right
here..



I mean,
what does
a waitress
usually say
when...

Um, maybe
I should
have
noticed.



What, am I
supposed
to do
now?

HEY!

Wait, if she
gets the
coffee, I'm
all alone...



STOP

STOP



Mugi,
come
back!

zoom



Got
it.

OK,
so
from
here...

...I want
you two
to act
it out.



C'mon!
Don't
give up!
Keep
trung!

WAHH

Hooooo!
I can't
do this!

A "runaway
waitress"...

And an audience
who chases her!
How novel...

I don't
think that's
what she
was going
for.



You! Why
do you
doubt it?

Just
trust
me!

But you're
always
lying

Why can't
you just
tell the
truth?



I'm telling
you, the
JFC's
going to
appear
here!

You
expect
me to
believe
that?



What
are they
doing?

Well,
that's
why we
rehearse!

I'm
awful!



I don't
like this
year.



If people
always told
the truth,
life would
be so easy.















At the Battle
of Okehazama
in 1560,
his army
defeated...



England's
Industrial
Revolution
began with
the success
of its textile
industry, and...



In 1570
Mobunaga
the Warlord
of Owari
and...



...Mobunaga
united the nation
through his
actions in
Owari





Everyone,
I brought
some drinks.
Let's take
a break.

Speak
up.

I'm always
telling you
that!

But
do we really
have to read
out-loud?
It's not
rehearsal...

in 1567.
Tatsuoki
Saitoh
was sent
into exile?

Oh,
and what
happens
next?

I dunno.

Manga Hosting Chapter 7



If we read out-loud, it's like practicing our lines and studying, so we're killing two birds with one stone.



No one requested this wonderful study session.



Look what you're doing to our poor freshmen!

TA-DAH!



Some, I meant, look at what you're doing...

...to poor Mugi!

What?!







Aren't you going to follow your director?



Seen Takashi gets it. Let's follow his example



For instance, I know that pretending to sit on an "invisible chair" will strengthen your diaphragm muscles. Right, Takashi?

is
it
I should
soon
be
coming

nah?







So...

That's

...all I
used to
do.



You know,
when you're
always standing,
you're always
alone.



SLURP

How?

I need a
refill.

Now,
you should
try the
"invisible
chair"
yourself.

Maybe
some
other
time.

OK,
that's
enough.
The guys
can stop.

See
that?

She used to
be lonely...

...but
she isn't
anymore.





SLAM 4.0



Don't
run
away!

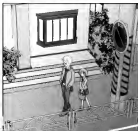

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 Higher Education
 Boston, MA 02116













THIS IS THE
FIRST TIME
WE'VE TALKED
WITH NO ONE
ELSE AROUND.



Wow...



Thanks for
walking
me home.

It's
OK.

It's
pretty late.

Won't
your folks
worry?



Sure,
anytime!



Huh?

May,
are you
all right?

Uh, yeah.
Just thinking
bout
someone...

Cerberus's
tell me if
she gets
out...



I guess it's
because you
always try
your best.

You seem
pretty run
down.





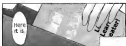






I
STILL...
DON'T FEEL
GLAD ABOUT
IT.

There
is...



Here
it is.



I have a
feeling you'll
look back
one day
and be glad
that you
signed on!

...Now
I SAID THAT
TO ME.

When I
FIGHT MET
EVERYBODY...



Each
performance
only happens
once...

And the
exact same
performance
will never
happen again.



something
magical
about
theater.



It's so
wonderful.

...if I
could feel
the "MAGIC"
FOR MYSELF.





I wish I
could enjoy
theater,
too...



Wow,
there's
some deep
stuff in
here.



It's
GETTING
LIGHT
OUTSIDE

...HUH?!



But I HAVE
NO SELF-
CONFIDENCE.

I've
NEVER EVEN
IMAGINED A
"CONFIDENT
ME".

Much's self-
projected image of
a "confident me" =
a PEEKY OVERSLAP!



ONLY
FIVE HOURS
TILL THE
MID-TERM!



It's
morning
already?!

No way?





It's Fun! Chapter 8





三年 Third-Year

- 1 岡村香織
- 2 飯野あゆお
- 3 小原千夏
- 4 相川達也
- 5 三橋直矢
- 6 Mono Ichinose
- 7 高木美砂子









How could you bet all of our funding?!

Hono, this is all your fault!

What in the world are you doing?

What the hell?!

Kai, catch!

BAM!

Huh?!

Run! Before I burn you to stone!

Hey! What did I do?!

What do you want me to do with this?!

















I guess
she's
right.



I can't let
you do that.
This is my
business.

Um, you
can go to
rehearsal.
I'll wait
here.



She'll do
anything
to prove
her point.

I mean,
how could
she even think
that everyone
in the group
would score in
the top fifty?

and she's
always been
stubborn.

I've known
Hono for
a long
time...



Aren't you
tired of
her yet?



She's
such a
fool.

STAND





Really?

...we
got
along
great.

Really!







R.I.P.
千一 〇







it sounds sort of fun...

I wonder what Theater Camp is?

She's so mean to me, Mug...



...but we have to rehearse exhaustively for the October festival. There's no time to waste.

I shouldn't have to tell you this...



And, Mug...

...but I expect 100% from each of you.

You already know this.



MUGI GOES TO REHEARSAL



CELEBRATING OUR
FIRST VOLUME!
WITH COMIC STRIPS!



THE PLAN



MUGI AND THE BUTTERFLY



NONO MEETS MIREI



KAI



SACHIE AND TAMA



LET'S TRY AGAIN



IT'S ALL GOOD!

